

TOWN OF BROOKER  
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 9, 2016

Present: Curtis Clark, Pam Johnson, Joe Tolleson, Gene Melvin, John Maines, Charlene Thomas, Tony Stalnaker.  
Absent: Doug Hayes

Meeting called to order by Gene Melvin, Mayor.  
Pledge of Allegiance!

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve the minutes as presented from the July 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Seconded by Curtis Clark. Motion passed.

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**Fire Department - Tony Stalnaker:**

1. Ford F-150 pick up truck has been received from Bradford County Sheriff's Department. The clerk put insurance on it. The tag and title will be transferred this week.
2. We did receive extra halogen tool. The handle is short on it and we need another one with a longer handle. The cost is \$209.95. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve this purchase. Seconded by Curtis Clark. Motion passed.

**Town Clerk - Charlene Thomas:**

1. Past due water report passed out. Still out \$484.13. Two accounts have been turned off, Wetherington and Whitnie Jenkins. I am going to take their \$100.00 deposit and put towards their bill.
2. Ethics Training material was given to each council member. Council was advised to make sure clerk gets a copy of their certificate once they do the training.
3. I did contact the Railroad and let them know we were not interested in mowing their right away for them. I have not heard back from them on this.
4. Spoke with Casey Kitchen concerning the selling of beer at the Dollar General. He said they are on board with no beer sold on Sunday. He said our Ordinance #18 pertaining to distance did not apply to them because they are going by F.S. 563.02 1(a). I referred this to John Maines. Mr. Maines advised council that the supreme court came out with a decision last year basically saying pertaining to sign age or advertising, if you have to look at content of sign to see if it is legal, it is not legal. Based on that Ordinance #18 Section 1 is invalid due to supreme court ruling. Also, ordinance has no penalty clause in it. He said we would need to do a new ordinance. Council was okay with Dollar General selling beer during the week as long as they do not sell it on Sunday.
5. Copies of a balanced budget for 2016/17 was passed out. The total budget is \$206,459.00 Last year budget was \$186,789.00. A difference of \$19,670.00. I added money to transfer \$9,000.00 to water fund for water tower repairs. Also, extra money was added for a roof on community center and the purchase of a new ice machine. Roll back rate is 0.3205. First public hearing on budget will be September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. I might need to do some more budget amendments on current budget, but I am going to wait until end of September.

6. Charles Berg Enterprises came out and cleaned ice machine and checked refrigerator. One of the evaporator plates on ice machine is not making ice. I was told it might continue to work for another year. The cost to repair it is \$1,365.00. A new ice machine would cost \$2,700.00. Council decided to purchase a new one instead of repairing it. This will be done in new budget year.

7. Every year council is suppose to consider raising water rates. At the present time we have \$17,842.00 in our water checking account. If we had a major repair we might not have enough money to pay for it. Last time we raised rates was May 2015. There was a lot of discussion on this by council. No decision was made at this time on raising rates.

8. Went over Revenues and Expenditures for July with council.

9. Mentioned to council that Bernard Carter's contract is up the end of December 2016. Because Brooker is so small it would be hard to find someone that could do everything he knows how to do. Council agreed. Clerk wanted to know if there was any wording we could put in the bid that would extend his contract for more than two years without having to bid it out every two years. Mr. Maines mentioned "RFP" request for proposal. Clerk will check into this.

**Water Department - Gene Melvin:**

1. When Bernard tried to install the new meter the line had cracks in it. Water was pouring out. He contacted Gene about this. He recommended a valve be put in between lines. Bernard had Swamp Cutters, LLC, come out and help him with this. The cost to install meter was \$160.00 and the cost to put valve in was \$948.42. A total cost of \$1108.42. A motion was made by Pam Johnson to approve this cost. Seconded by Joe Tolleson. Motion passed.

**Road/Streets - Joe Tolleson:**

1. Tree limb fell behind Baseball field. Also, several other places were mentioned that needs cleaning up. This will be referred to Eddie Lewis, County Commissioner.

**Community Center - Gene Melvin:**

1. There is still a leak in the ceiling. He had someone come out and look at it but has not heard back from them. We may need to have flex seal sprayed on roof or have a new roof put on existing roof.

Checks approved: 6249 - 6266, 5001 - 5011

A motion was made by Pam Johnson to pay the bills. Seconded by Joe Tolleson. Motion passed. Gene Melvin made a motion to adjourn. Time: 8:10p.m.

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C.E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor

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Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk

